FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

26 SEPTEMBER 1983

Lebanon

Cease-Fire — The warring sides in Lebanon have agreed to cease fire and hold a "national dialogue," Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Saudi mediator Prince Bandar ibn Sultan announced late on 25 September at a press conference reported by Damascus radio. The agreement followed contacts between Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and Saudi King Fahd, Khaddam disclosed. Confirming the agreement in a statement broadcast by Beirut Radio, Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan said the cease-fire would take effect at 0600 local time on 26 September. Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) leader Walid Junblatt called on his fighters to abide by the agreement, the radio reported. All parties were adhering to the cease-fire early on 26 September despite occasional sniper fire, according to a military source cited by Beirut radio.

An official statement detailing the agreement said that arrangements to consolidate the cease-fire will be made by a committee drawn from the Lebanese Army, the Phalangist Lebanese Front, the opposition National Salvation Front (NSF), and the Amal Movement. The statement, which was broadcast by Beirut radio, also noted that the planned national dialogue conference will include NSF leaders Walid Junblatt, Sulayman Franjiyah, and Rashid Karami; Camille Sham'un and Phalangist Party leader Pierre al-Jumayyil for the Lebanese Front; Amal leader Nabih Birri; and three personalities not affiliated with the warring parties — Sa'ib Salam, 'Adil 'Usayran, and Raymond Iddih. President Amin al-Jumayyil will also welcome the presence of Syrian and Saudi delegates at the conference, the statement added. Citing sources in Damascus close to PSP leader Junblatt, Radio Monte Carlo said Al-Jumayyil will preside over the national dialogue conference with some Cabinet members who will be chosen by agreement among all parties. An appendix to the agreement stipulates that the Lebanese Army will deploy along the Damascus road as far as 'Alayh, the radio reported.

The cease-fire announcement followed intensive diplomatic activity over the weekend during which Beirut radio reported that Syria and the NSF had introduced "new obstacles" by demanding that Al-Jumayyil give a prior commitment to abide by the decisions of the national dialogue conference. The president rejected this demand, according to Voice of Lebanon radio. Nevertheless, Saudi Arabia and the United States have pledged to the NSF that they will ensure that the conference resolutions are implemented, Radio Monte Carlo reported.

Weekend Fighting — Heavy shelling continued over the weekend despite repeated reports that a cease-fire was imminent, according to Beirut radio. U.S. Warships shelled artillery emplacements in the Ash-Shuf Mountains late on 23 September and a U.S. Marine was wounded by sniper fire on 25 September, the radio noted. In southern Beirut the Lebanese Army clashed with gunmen in the Al-Murayjah district, the radio reported. Amal gunmen forced Phalangist militia out of Al-Murayjah after "ferocious battles," the clandestine Voice of Arab Lebanon radio asserted on 24 September. However, the Voice of Lebanon subsequently reported that the Army reentered the area after killing or wounding 22 gunmen and pulling down their barricades.

In another development, Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon announced that a Lebanese Air Force Hawker Hunter was downed by a SAM-7 while attempting to attack military positions in the Al-Batrun area on 23 September. In Damascus, the Lebanese National Resistance — an organization which has claimed responsibility for guerrilla attacks on the IDF — issued a statement warning the multinational force that, if its aircraft again strike at targets in Lebanon, the National Resistance will strike at Western interests and civilians in Beirut, Damascus radio reported.

PLO Affairs

Tension increased between the PLO and Syria as Syrian forces besieged Fatah fighters forced to withdraw northward from the Al-Biqa' under Syrian threats, according to North Lebanon Voice of Palestine radio. Syrian tanks and special forces encircled the Fatah units, trained artillery on them, and prevented food and water from passing through their lines, the radio said. The Syrians insist on totally disarming the fighters, a move which is being resisted and which could lead to fighting if continued, sources cited by the radio maintained. PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat told UPI that the PLO will not allow another battle to begin when ferocious fighting is continuing in the Ash-Shuf, the radio reported. An earlier PLO statement broadcast by the radio expressed fears that the siege was linked with a full agreement between Syria and unnamed parties reached without the knowledge or participation of the PLO, while Amman radio linked the Syrian measures with an earlier statement by 'Arafat that PLO forces were extremely close to Israeli military positions and that a resumption of fighting between them could not be ruled out.

In another development, Fatah loyalists clashed with PFLP-General Command and Democratic Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine supporters near Tripoli following Syria's warning to 'Arafat supporters in the Al-Biqa' to leave the area, the Voice of Lebanon announced. Meanwhile, 'Arafat continued his tour of PLO units in northern Lebanon, according to Baghdad Voice of PLO radio.

In an interview with the Kuwaiti *Ar-Ra'y al-'Amm* cited by KUNA, Fatah opposition leader Colonel Sa'id Musa Muragha denied that the dissidents are planning to form an alternative organization to the PLO and praised the conciliation committee meetings with the various parties in the dispute as "fruitful and positive." The committee is continuing its efforts in Damascus to resolve the differences between the opposing groups, KUNA added. Meanwhile, Fatah has formed new security and financial

committees to deal with certain "negative behavior" within the organization, Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf declared in an interview with *Filastin al-Muhtallah* cited by KUNA.

Syria

Responding to reports that a Senate subcommittee has approved the cancellation of U.S. aid to Syria because of events in Lebanon, an Economy and Foreign Trade Ministry official said Syria is "surprised" at the decision because the U.S. Government does not in any case extend aid to Syria, Damascus radio reported. The official linked the issue to an "old" plan for U.S. aid which Syria did not use because it considered the attached conditions unfavorable.

Israel

Unity Government Negotiations — Prime Minister-designate Yitzhaq Shamir invited Labor Party Chairman Shi'mon Peres to discuss the formation of a new national unity government, *The Jerusalem Post* reported. Although the Alignment would not join the government as it exists now, the faction would be willing to discuss a new government based on a "joint plan of action" and on specific policies advocated by the Alignment, the paper said. Meanwhile, Mapam threatened to withdraw from the Alignment if the two factions agree on common guidelines, IDF Radio reported.

U.S. Aid Dispute — Defense Minister Moshe Arens has demanded that the Israeli Embassy in Washington withdraw its proposal for the United States to decrease its total military aid to Israel in 1985 in exchange for an increase in grants, Israeli sources in Washington cited by *Ma'ariv* claimed.

Sharon on Israeli Boundaries — Minister Without Portfolio Ari'el Sharon told West Bank settlers in remarks cited by Jerusalem radio that Israel must remember that areas "east of the Jordan River" are part of "Eretz Yisra'el" even though that territory is not currently in Israeli hands.

Gulf States

The GCC member states will hold their first joint military maneuvers 1 October as a prelude to forming a united rapid deployment force to counter possible threats to the Gulf region, UAE Crown Prince Shaykh Khalifa ibn Zayid announced in a statement reported by KUNA. The maneuvers are intended to demonstrate that the Gulf states alone are responsible for security in the region and do not need "foreign patronage, interference, or outside support," the shaykh declared.

Meanwhile, an editorial in the UAE paper *Al-Khalij* warned that the United States will probably "intervene" in the Gulf if the Iran-Iraq conflict escalates and urged the region's states to guard against any interference.

Saudi Arabia

Prince Talal, brother of King Fahd, accepted an invitation from Egyptian President Husni Mubarak to visit Egypt and declared that "Camp David no longer exists," Radio Monte Carlo reported.

In a communique published in Tehran, the "Islamic Revolution Organization of the Arabian Peninsula" urged all citizens in the region to unite against the Saudi rulers, according to IRNA.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Intensive artillery exchanges continued in the northern sector while Iranian forces attacked Iraqi positions between Marivan and Sayyid Sadiq, killing more than 100 Iraqi soldiers and inflicting "considerable damage," according to an Iranian military communique and a Revolution Guards Corps statement broadcast by Tehran radio. An Iraqi communique broadcast by Baghdad radio accused Iran of shelling civilian areas in Sayyid Sadiq but did not mention any Iranian attack.

In a Friday sermon broadcast by Tehran radio, Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani reiterated that Iran will not hesitate to block the Strait of Hormuz if Iraqi forces use French Super Etendard planes to threaten Iran's resources and security. This warning was echoed in remarks by Petroleum Minister Mohammad Gharazi and Ground Forces Commander 'Ali Sayyad-Shirazi, according to IRNA and radio reports. Iran is able to "purge" the Gulf of any U.S. fleets sent "for creating havoc" in the region as well as to cap any more damaged oil wells, the petroleum minister asserted. Meanwhile, an official Iraqi spokesman cited by Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio admitted that Iran had capped one of the three damaged Nowruz oil wells although an earlier Iraqi statement had denounced the Iranian claim as false.

Iran

In a series of operations against Kurdish rebels, government forces captured the "most impassable heights" in Kordestan and mopped up 35 villages, according to a Hamzeh Seyyed ash-Shohada Headquarters communique broadcast by Tehran radio. Another government patrol in the Shahur Heights killed 40 "counterrevolutionaries" and seized a large amount of arms and ammunition, another radio report announced.

Libya-Chad

The Transitional National Union Government (GUNT) has launched a diplomatic campaign to promote national reconciliation in Chad, GUNT Vice President Abdelkader Kamougue told AFP. The proposal for France and Libya to back an OAU peacekeeping force in Chad "should not meet with any difficulties," the official asserted. Meanwhile, Libyan Foreign Minister 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi announced in an interview with AFP that Libya is prepared to participate in such a pan-African peacekeeping force as long as it is accepted by the GUNT.

Western Sahara

SDAR Foreign Minister Ibrahim Hakim castigated Morocco's continued refusal to meet with Polisario representatives to discuss a cease-fire in the Western Sahara, APS reported.

Meanwhile, Moroccan Foreign Minister M'hamed Boucetta reiterated Morocco's willingness to consider all solutions to the conflict except those involving direct talks with Polisario, AFP said.

Pakistan

The Sind election authority has postponed elections in some riot-torn towns until 2 October, AFP reported. The antigovernment Movement for the Restoration of Democracy had called for a national strike on election day and was hoping to prevent voters from casting their ballots, AFP said. Meanwhile, President Mohammad Ziaul Haq refused to meet with "subversive elements" but told newsmen he was always willing to confer with "patriotic individuals and parties."

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

CONTENTS

South Asia

Vol VIII No 187 *26 September 1983*

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

INDIA

Move Made To Permit Gromyko To Attend UN ..... E 1
'Informal Talks' Upcoming at United Nations ..... E 1
4 Killed in Hyderabad Violence 23 September ..... E 1
4 Legislators Detained ..... E 1
Hyderabad Under Partial Curfew ..... E 1
Gandhi Urges 'Strong Measures' ..... E 1
1 Killed in Madhya Pradesh Police Shooting ..... E 2
Army Apprehends 10 'Extremists' in Manipur ..... E 2
Demonstrators Demand Pakistan Free Gaffar Khan ..... E 2
'No Match' Seen for Pakistan's Harpoon Missiles ..... E 2
Thai Paper: Naval Base Lease to USSR Denied *[THE NATION REVIEW 26 Sep]* ..... E 2

PAKISTAN

Ziaul Haq Replies to Gandhi Letter of 26 August ..... F 1
President Comments on Sind Situation, Elections ..... F 1
25 September News Conference ..... F 1
Sind Election Authority Revises Polling Schedule ..... F 2
AFP Reports Elections Suspended, Zia Comments ..... F 2
AFP: Wali Khan Arrested Upon Arrival in Rawalpindi ..... F 2
JASARAT Criticizes Students for 'Agitating' *[17 Sep]* ..... F 3
Truck, Oil Tanker Fired on Near Hyderabad 23 Sep ..... F 3

IRAN

Foreign Minister Comments on Lebanon Cease-fire ..... I 1
Majlis Elections Scheduled for February-March 1984 ..... I 1
Students Demonstrate in Front of Former U.S. Embassy ..... I 1
Gharazi: Iran Able To Purge Gulf of Oil, U.S. Fleet ..... I 1
PDRY Foreign Minister Views Gulf War, Relations ..... I 2
Libyan Naval Commander Arrives in Tehran 23 Sep ..... I 2
Ground Forces Commander on Closing Hormuz Strait ..... I 2
Hashemi-Rafsanjani Friday Sermons 23 Sep ..... I 3
First Sermon ..... I 3
Second Sermon ..... I 3
Armed Forces Joint Staff Issues Communiques ..... I 4
Communique No 1,469 ..... I 4
Communique No 1,470 ..... I 5
Communique No 1,471 ..... I 5
Guards Corps Statement on Operation in Iraq ..... I 6
IRNA: Denmark Agrees To Sell Warships to Iraq ..... I 6
Over 308 Convicts Pardoned, Released in Kerman ..... I 6
Musavi, Ministers Depart for Oil Regions 26 Sep ..... I 6
Iran Recalls Wrestling Team From Soviet Union ..... I 6

Move Made To Permit Gromyko To Attend UN

BK241219 Hong Kong AFP in English 1158 GMT 24 Sep 83

[Text] New Delhi, Sept. 24 (AFP) — India, as chairman of the Non-aligned Movement, has launched a last-minute initiative to permit Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko to attend the U.N. General Assembly session in New York, the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) reported today, quoting diplomatic sources.

France and Canada have endorsed the initiative, which immediately received the support of Yugoslavia, Egypt and Algeria, PTI said.

The Soviet minister was to have addressed the U.N. General Assembly session, which opened yesterday.

But he cancelled his planned trip to New York following the controversy over the downing of a South Korean airliner with 269 people aboard by a Soviet interceptor on September 1.

New York State authorities refused to allow the special Aeroflot plane due to carry the Soviet diplomat to land at New York's Kennedy International Airport.

A U.S. Federal Government proposal that the Soviet plane carrying Mr. Gromyko land at a military air base was rejected by Moscow.

Mr. Gromyko's absence at the U.N. meetings evoked a strong reaction in New Delhi, since Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi was hoping to use the 38th General Assembly session as an opportunity to revive detente.

The Indian leader is due to address the General Assembly this coming Thursday in her capacity as head of the Non-aligned Movement.

During her stay in New York, Mrs. Gandhi is scheduled to meet informally with 25 heads of state and government who have gone there in response to an appeal by the Indian prime minister. These meetings will focus on nuclear disarmament and the resumption of the North-South dialogue for a new world economic order. Mrs. Gandhi, who is currently on a four-day official visit to Greece, is due to leave Athens for Paris tomorrow where she is to have talks with French President Francois Mitterrand.

'Informal Talks' Upcoming at United Nations

BK241459 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 24 Sep 83

[Text] About 30 world leaders are expected to take part in the informal talks in New York from Monday and will deal with peace, disarmament, economic development, and ways to strengthen the United Nations. The meeting has been suggested by the prime minister, Mrs Gandhi, as chairperson of the Non-aligned Movement. The talks will be held behind closed doors at the United Nations. Many participants will also address the current session of the UN General Assembly. They will include heads of state or government from France, Sweden, Yugoslavia, Bulgaria, Egypt, the Netherlands, and Tanzania. The UN secretary general, Mr Perez de Cuellar, and the Assembly president, Mr Jorge Illueca, will also attend the informal meeting. According to official sources in Delhi, the meeting has been specifically designed to bring about an improvement in East-West relations.

4 Killed in Hyderabad Violence 23 September

BK240730 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 24 Sep 83

[Text] In Andhra Pradesh, four more people have died and five injured in violent incidents in Hyderabad yesterday. The city police commissioner, Mr (Vijaya Kama Rao), told newsmen last night that police resorted to baton charge to disperse the warring groups in Mughalpura area. He said about 250 people have been arrested so far.

4 Legislators Detained

BK241614 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 24 Sep 83

[Text] In Andhra Pradesh, four legislators belonging to two political parties have been detained under the National Security Act. The city police commissioner, Mr (Vijaya Kama Rao), told newsmen that no untoward incident was reported from any part of Hyderabad City today. In all, 300 persons have been taken into custody; prohibitory orders have been promulgated in area covered by six police divisions of the city. He said the police have sealed off for 15 days the premises from where an Urdu daily is being published. Three persons were beaten to death last night and four including three women were injured. The chief minister, Mr Rama Rao, today held consultations with senior officials on the situation in Hyderabad.

Hyderabad Under Partial Curfew

BK251258 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] An indefinite curfew will be imposed in many parts of Hyderabad city from 0700 this evening. The city police commissioner has said that the curfew will be enforced in the areas covered by Charminar, (Chatrinaka), (Mir Chowk) and (Malakpote) police subdivisions. Six cases of stabbing were reported today from different parts of the old city. The chief minister, Mr Rama Rao, visited several areas in the city today.

Gandhi Urges 'Strong Measures'

BK260338 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] The prime minister has urged the chief minister of Andhra Pradesh to take strong measures to put down the communal disturbances in Hyderabad. In a communication to Mr N.T. Rama Rao, Mrs Gandhi has said that all patriotic and right thinking people should join hands to root out this poison.

In a message to the Andhra Pradesh Congress-I Committee president, Mrs Gandhi has called upon partymen in the state to help restore normalcy in the city. She has also appealed to all sections of the people to unite to fight the menace of communalism and help those who have suffered. As already reported, a 36-hour curfew was imposed in Hyderabad from 1900 yesterday. Sixty arrests have so far been made in connection with the incident.

1 Killed in Madhya Pradesh Police Shooting
BK250610 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] In Madhya Pradesh, one person died and four others were seriously injured in a police firing at Champa near Raipur in Bilaspur district yesterday. Earlier, the police made baton charge and burst tear gas shells to disperse a violent mob which indulged in heavy stone throwing at a police station. The crowd was demanding release of nine persons arrested for beating up civic officials on Friday. According to the police, 22 persons and 18 policemen were injured in the clash.

Army Apprehends 10 'Extremists' in Manipur
BK260327 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] In Manipur, the Army has apprehended 10 extremists belonging to the outlawed People's Liberation Army and the People's Revolutionary Party during the last week. Large quantities of arms and ammunition have been recovered from them. With this, the number of extremists arrested by the Army in Manipur since January this year has gone up to 194.

Demonstrators Demand Pakistan Free Gaffar Khan
BK231415 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Text] In New Delhi, a demonstration was held outside the Pakistan Embassy today to demand the immediate release of Khan Abdul Gaffar Khan. It was organized by the Delhi Pradesh [State] Congress-I Committee and the Delhi Pradesh Youth Congress-I. It appealed to the Pakistan authorities to release Gaffar Khan immediately.

'No Match' Seen for Pakistan's Harpoon Missiles
BK251310 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] Defense experts feel that the supply of Harpoon missiles to Pakistan will substantially upgrade the level of technology inthe naval warfare in the subcontinent. PTI quoting experts says the Harpoon is the most efficient and versatile antiship missile system now available and India has no match. The delivery of 40 Harpoon missiles to Islamabad is now awaiting American congressional approval.

Thai Paper: Naval Base Lease to USSR Denied
BK260213 Bangkok The Nation Review in English 26 Sep 83 p 6

[Text] India has dismissed as "completely erroneous and baseless" a reported statement by Navy Commander-in-Chief Adm Sombun Chuaphibun that it had leased Port Blair naval base to the Soviet Union.

The spokesman of the Indian Embassy here said that India did not discriminate in favour of or against any foreign country over the use of facilities at Port Blair on Nicobar Island.

The outgoing Navy commander-in-chief told reporters last week that the lease was given to the Soviet Union last year. He said, however, that the lease contract did not immediately affect Thai security.

India is now chairman of the Nonaligned Movement and has been cautious over its image among Third World countries lest its leadership could be damaged.

Ziaul Haq Replies to Gandhi Letter of 26 August

BK261058 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] Pakistan has once again urged upon the Government of India in the interest of promoting mutual confidence, understanding,and cooperation to observe the principle of noninterference in letter and spirit. The reminder was (?contained) in a reply sent by President General Mohammad Ziaul Haq to Indian Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi's letter. Although the letter of 26 August itself was about a matter which was exclusively within Pakistan's domestic jurisdiction, it stated that India did not wish to interfere in Pakistan's internal affairs.

The president's reply on the 4th of this month points to the inconsistency between the Indian prime minister's reaffirmation of principle and the distinct lack of regard for it in practice. This is also evident from the statements issued by the prime minister and the Indian Government ministers.

The president said that in the text of the letter as well as in the reports of the prime minister's statement a mention was made of the internal situation in Pakistan and also the steps taken by the Pakistan Government in respect of some of its own nationals. He said some of the statements of the Indian Government leaders also lends support to the antigovernment elements in Pakistan. The president said the principle of noninterference — indispensable for the promotion of good neighborly relations — had scrupulously been observed by Pakistan both in letter and spirit. He said in this context Pakistan had consistently been [word indistinct] to explain the obligation that evolved upon it to these elements of public opinion in Pakistan that are exercised by events in India.

The president expressed the hope that India will join in strengthening mutual confidence in the interest of promoting greater understanding and enhancing cooperation between the two countries. He assured that on our part Pakistan remained committed to the development of friendly relations with India based on the universally recognized principles of sovereign equality and mutual benefit.

The Indian prime minister's letter had expressed concern of the Indian parliament as well as of her own about the detention of Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan. It said that Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan occupied a special place in the hearts of the Indian people and regarded him as a true Gandhian.

President Comments on Sind Situation, Elections

BK251548 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] After inaugurating a conference [on investment opportunities in Pakistan in Karachi today], President Ziaul Haq told foreign correspondents that the slight disorder in some parts of Sind is the work of a few political parties, although there was no reason for such protests and disturbances. He said causing disturbances, creating the law and order situation, and damaging public property are not politics. They are subversion. He said that these elements are playing into the hands of their foreign masters. He expressed the hope that these people will act with (?wisdom) and the situation will be normal again.

Answering a question about the Indian prime minister's statement on the internal affairs of Pakistan, the president said minor incidents in Sind do not warrant such statements. Answering another question, he said he has no program of dialogue with those people who staged demonstrations in some parts of Sind. However, he said, talks could be held with those who have feelings of love in their hearts for Pakistan.

25 September News Conference

BK260436 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq has said the government is fully determined to hold local bodies elections in Punjab and Sind on 28 and 29 September respectively. Addressing a news conference in Karachi yesterday evening, he said it is the responsibility of the government as well as of the people to see that these elections are held in a peaceful atmosphere.

The president said the political program he announced on 12 August is a comprehensive and positive step and he does not think it requires any modifications. Replying to a question, the president said the political program envisages completion of four phases of elections from the local to the national levels by March 1985. If, according to the circumstances, the program needs to be shortened, he will do that.

Replying to another question, the president said it is the wrong impression given by a certain section of the press that the government has started negotiations with some defunct political parties. However, the government is ready to talk with anyone who wants to work for the welfare and well-being of the country.

Replying to yet another question, the president said the so-called Movement for the Restoration of Democracy is not a movement for the restoration of democracy. He pointed out that anyone who believes in democracy cannot even think of resorting to violence.

The president said the cases against those who have violated land reforms are being reopened.

The president described the recent violations of Pakistani airspace as open violation of all international laws and regulations. He said Pakistan has protested the recent violations of its airspace.

Replying to a question, the president expressed the hope that the UN secretary general's special representative, Mr Diego Cordovez, will visit the countries of this region after the current General Assembly session.

Replying to another question, the president said Pakistan is not on the itinerary of President Reagan's forthcoming visit to Asian nations, but he expressed the hope that the American President will also visit Pakistan at his convenience.

Replying to a question about the communal riots in India, the president said in spite of the fact that Pakistan sympathizes with Muslims living throughout the world, including India, it has not made any protest to India in this regard as a matter of policy.

Sind Election Authority Revises Polling Schedule

BK260322 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] The Sind provincial election authority has announced the revised schedule for polling to local bodies elections in Sind. According to the revised schedule, polling for local bodies in Karachi division; Hyderabad, Thatta, and Badin districts and Koti subdivision of Dadu district in Hyderabad division; and Sukkur, Shikarpur, and Jacobabad districts in Sukkur division will be held Thursday. Polling in Dadu district of Hyderabad division —except Tharparkar and Sanghar districts and Koti subdivision — and Khaipur, Nawabshah, and Larkana districts of Sukkur division will be held next Sunday. The lists of polling stations for all districts and the polling personnel have already been released.

AFP Reports Elections Suspended, Zia Comments

OW252043 Paris AFP in English 2040 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] Islamabad, Sept 25 (AFP) — The provincial authorities today suspended local elections in about eight troubled districts of southern Pakistan, as the anti-government protest movement continued to gather momentum in Sind Province, official sources in Karachi said.

The authorities will hold elections in two phases putting off polling in some riot-hit towns till Sunday, they said.

The elections, boycotted by the eight opposition parties' alliance Movement for Restoration of Democracy (MRD) was scheduled throughout Sind Province on Thursday.

The MRD has also called for a national strike on the polling day and reports from the riot-hit areas said that the group was planning to prevent voters from casting ballots.

The decision announced tonight following President Ziaul Haq's one-day visit to Karachi said the election authorities had suspended the poll in Dadu, Sanghar, Nawabshah, Khairpur, Lagkana, Sukkur, Tharparkar and Hyderabad Districts.

More than 50 people have died in these areas in the past 1 and 1/2 months in clashes with police.

But the authorities said that the elections in the remaining districts including Karachi would be held as scheduled.

Sources in Karachi said that troops have been camped outside the city and that army trucks had been in the streets prior to Thursday's poll to be contested mostly by rightwing and independent candidates.

No change has so far been announced in Punjab Province where municipal elections are scheduled for Wednesday, but the MRD has called on people in Punjab to observe a strike on the polling day.

Meanwhile, President Haq again ruled out any "concession" to the agitators he described as "subversive elements." He told newsmen in Karachi that his regime was not under pressure from "a few agitators."

He said he could not hold a political dialogue with those who were responsible for "subversions and disruption" in some parts of Sind.

He said the present attitude of the MRD was "highly objectionable" but reiterated that his door was open for exchange of views with all "patriotic" individuals and parties.

The anti-government campaign continued in Sind Province today where processions took place in more than half a dozen towns.

AFP: Wali Khan Arrested Upon Arrival in Rawalpindi

BK260947 Hong Kong AFP in English 0944 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] Rawalpindi, Sept 26 (AFP) — Wali Khan, leader of the Pakistani Democratic National Party, was arrested by police at the airport here today upon his arrival from London. Wali Khan, 62, was the last leader of the eight parties belonging to the opposition coalition, Movement for the Restoration of Democracy, who had yet to be arrested. He is considered the most influential politician in Pakistan's Northwest Province bordering Afghanistan.

According to members of his family and party militants gathered at the airport to greet him, he was arrested as he disembarked from the plane and taken to the Rawalpindi airbase for possible transfer to Peshawar.

Before leaving Britain, where he had undergone medical treatment, Wali Khan reaffirmed his support for the opposition movement and said he had no intention of negotiating with the military government to resolve the country's political crisis.

Nine leaders of the Pakistan People's Party of the late prime minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto were arrested here at the airport two weeks ago upon their return from exile in London.

Two more leaders of the PPP from the Province of Punjab plan to return shortly to Pakistan, according to a high-ranking party member who identified them as Sheik Rashid, currently hospitalized in Bulgaria, and Mustapha Khar, former head of the provincial government now in exile in London.

The arrest of the National Democratic Party leader today was seen by observers as a sign of the military government's growing nervousness over the activity of opposition politicians.

Wali Khan, a moderate, apparently is not ranked by President Ziaul Haq among the "responsible politicians" with whom he has said he is willing to open a dialogue.

The government yesterday for the first time implicitly acknowledged the seriousness of the situation in the southern Sind Province by announcing that local elections scheduled for Thursday would be postponed for three days in areas where unrest was most widespread.

The decision was seen by Western diplomats in Islamabad as related to the scheduled visit of U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger Friday.

The military regime, which has put on a show of calm since opposition forces launched a campaign of civil disobedience last month, would no doubt like to avoid a fresh outbreak of rioting on the eve of the U.S. official's arrival, diplomats said.

The Movement for the Restoration of Democracy has called for a general strike and a boycott of local elections Wednesday and Thursday in Punjab and Sind Provinces.

An opposition leader from Punjab told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that the movement planned to step up its campaign of voluntary arrests in the province beginning October 1.

He said that if Punjab Province, relatively untouched by civil unrest so far, joined Sind in opposing the regime, President Zia's departure would be "inevitable."

JASARAT Criticizes Students for 'Agitating'

GF260803 Karachi Jasarat in Urdu 17 Sep 83 p 3

[Editorial: "Sad Incident at Karachi University"]

[Excerpt] On 15 September, a group of students at Karachi University, armed with Sten guns and revolvers, held hostage the vice chancellor and 50 other employees of the university for more than 10 hours. Several teachers among the hostages were threatened with death. This group of students, which was agitating to gain admission for Kashmir students and students from backward areas, held control of the administration block until 2030. During that period, they threatened several teachers and nonteaching staff with guns and automatic weapons.

When the word "student" is mentioned, one pictures young men with books under their arms, showing respect to their teachers and studying to gain knowledge and wisdom. This kind of student draws respect from the public. However today in the lap of alma mater, a group of students have been threatening their teachers with guns and revolvers and have been acting like hoods and brigands. They have shattered all the values that are so much cherished in educational institutions everywhere.

The students have every right to forward their demands and we would recognize this right in any case. However, students should never forget their respectful image which they generally enjoy due to the fact that they are students engaged in learning. There were times when students would vie with each other to be first to help a teacher put on his shoes and they felt pride when given the chance. Today students hold their teachers by the collar and insult them. This is a great tragedy of our times. The students should sit down and think what is wrong with them. It is hopedthat by doing so they will come to know their right place in the scheme of things.

Truck, Oil Tanker Fired on Near Hyderabad 23 Sep

BK241730 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 24 Sep 83

[Text] A press note issued by the district magistrate, Hyderabad, today says last night six to seven persons opened fire on a truck and oil tanker on its way to Hyderabad near Panjmoro. As a result of this firing the truck driver lost balance and the truck turned turtle, while the oil tanker which had stopped because of the firing was set ablaze by the accused persons. One of the drivers received minor injuries. Later the accused persons disappeared in the darkness. A case has been registered by the police and investigation is in progress.

Foreign Minister Comments on Lebanon Cease-fire

LD261020 Tehran IRNA in English 0916 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 25, IRNA — The Iranian foreign minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati announcing the stance of the Islamic Republic on the Saudi Arabian mediation and cease-fire proposals in Lebanon stressed that measures securing American and Zionist interests would not be acceptable under any circumstances.

Dr. Velayati said any pause in the struggle of the Lebanese people against the Zionist forces of occupation and multinational interventionist troops particularly American and French who have participated in the recent massacres of the Lebanese, will no doubt reinforce their (enemy) positions and will help American and Zionist regimes in completing the process of Camp David and suppressing the Palestinian and Lebanese struggles.

The Foreign Minister reiterated Iran's support for the Muslims and the deprived classes of Lebanon and stressed the need for the continuation of the defensive struggle against the forces of oppression and Zionism.

Majlis Elections Scheduled for February-March 1984

GF241830 Tehran IRNA in English 1705 GMT 24 Sep 83

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 24, IRNA — The second election for the Majlis (Islamic Consultative Assembly) of the Islamic Republic of Iran will be held in February-March 1984, said Interior Minister Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Akbar Nateq-Nuri here today.

Commenting about the complete security of the borders of the Islamic Republic, he said that this was a major and weighty issue since about 10,000 kms. of border roads were to be laid and also the number of border posts increased.

Nateq-Nuri said also that a considerable amount of effort has been expended for bringing some of the border regions under the complete control of the Islamic Republic.

Students Demonstrate in Front of Former U.S. Embassy

LD242216 Tehran IRNA in English 2013 GMT 24 Sep 83

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 24, IRNA — A large number of students and teachers of Tehran schools gathered in front of the U.S. den of espionage (former U.S. Embassy) here today. They carried pictures of martyred students and shouted slogans against the United States and set on fire its flag as well as that of the Soviet Union and the Zionist regime as a sign of their hatred for these three world criminals.

During the ceremony which was held to mark the third day of the war week and the opening of schools in Iran, Ayatollah Janati, religious jurisprudent member of the Council of Guardians of the Constitution stressed the necessity of being free of need of foreign technicians and scholars. He also emphasised the need for bettering the cultural and scientific level of the country adding that teachers and professors should know that students are an indispensable asset of the country and are more precious than any industry for the Islamic Revolution and Islam.

He continued that the defeated enemy agents had kept an eye on schools and sought to weaken the morale of the students and corrupt them through poisoned propaganda and disturbance. He said that if these conspiracies are not thwarted the enemies of Islam would utilise schools as a centre for expanding corruption.

Resolution issued by the marchers was read after the speech of Ayatollah Janati which said that the students considered the commemorating of war week and defending the achievements of the Islamic Revolution as a significant mission.

The students also stressed that the world oppression, enemies of Islam and the revolution considered schools as a centre for penetration and domination and were looking forward to inflicting their ranks and disturbing educational climate.

The resolution also called on those beguiled by the outlawed groups to return to the nation.

It also announced support for the government, judicial, legislative and executive branches and the Majlis. The resolution furthermore called on the government to increase its endeavours for eliminating the hardships of the oppressed, in conformity with the line of Imam Khomeyni.

The resolution also condemned the Zionist regime's crimes and those of the Phalangists and the subservient government in Lebanon upon the deprived and Muslims there. It also stressed the sacred ideal of liberating Quds from the claws of usurping Zionism through the unity of Muslims and warned the world oppression and infidelty that the flames of the wrath of the Islamic Revolution would engulf the palace of the criminal Saddam as well as the usurping and criminal Zionists and the reactionary puppets in the region.

Similar ceremonies were held in various cities of the country on the same occasion.

Gharazi: Iran Able To Purge Gulf of Oil, U.S. Fleet

LD242306 Tehran IRNA in English 1954 GMT 24 Sep 83

["Gharazi: Iran Capabale of Purging P. Gulf Waters of U.S. Fleet, Oil Slick" — IRNA headline]

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 24 IRNA — Iran's oil minister has said that the Islamic Republic is capable of sending deep to the bottom of the sea the U.S. fleets which are dispatched to the region for "creating havocs in the region." He said now that Iranian technicians have capped Nowruz-3 oil well, Iran is now able to purge the Persian Gulf waters of the oil slick as well as from the "contamination" caused by the very existence of the U.S. fleet in the vicinity.

The oil minister who was talking in an interview with local and foreign reporters here said that the shelling of Iran's oil fields by the Iraqi forces in March, 1983 was a calculated strategem in order to bring the Islamic Republic down to its knees. Garazi said immediately after the shelling of the oil field of Nowruz and the gushing into the sea waters of its oil, the Western media launched out a propaganda campaign claiming that the United States was

the only country capable of capping the oil flow into the Persian Gulf. He noted the ultimate ideabehind the conspiracy was to prod Iran. which move in our judgment would seal the doom of the Islamic Revolution, since it would involve Iran's acceptance of a cease-fire.

With our expertise we are ready to provide help to any country in the world which should solicit us for help. The Iranian minister added also that there are more oil fields in the Persian Gulf waters which were damaged by the Iraqi forces and which have to be capped in a future time relying "solely upon God and upon our own human power." Said the minister, "Our motive for accomplishing this goal is our determination for disproving the myth of the omnipotence of the United States, and flinging down Saddam and for challenging the bullying world powers.

The capping of the oil well Nowruz took 27 days to finish by a team of solely Iranian technicans and engineers.

The superintendent of the capping operations Mohamed Taqi Abolhassani said in the same session with oil minister that if there were any person among the "Western" sources who dispute the news he would be ready to take him to the oil field in order to let him learn by eyewitness.

PDRY Foreign Minister Views Gulf War, Relations

LD242259 Tehran IRNA in English 1943 GMT 24 Sep 83

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 24, IRNA — The foreign affairs minister of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali, said here today that the Iraq-Iran war serves to benefit only the U.S. and Zionists imperialists." The Yemenese foreign minister who was speaking to the Persian daily *Ettela'at* has said also that the safeguarding of the security of the region is the business of the countries of the region and that Washington must not be allowed to interfere in the affairs of the countries of the Middle East and Persian Gulf states.

(On the Iran-Yemen relations): Our relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran has been rapidly expanding in every area. I hope my visit here will have good results for the peoples of the two countries. Our relations are based on mutual respect to each other's sovereignty and non-interference in the internal affairs, for the purpose of ensuring common interests. We hope our relations will further strengthen.

(On the Iraq-Iran war): We believe the on-going war is to the disadvantage of the peoples of Iran and Iraq, and that it only benefits the enemies of Muslims of Iran and Iraq, and U.S. and Zionist imperialists. We were against this war since its outbreak. We hope the Almighty will deliver the peoples of Iran and Iraq from the ruinous effects of this war.

(On Camp David and Palestine): The Camp David agreement is against the interests of the Arab and Muslim peoples and especially against the Palestinians. The Camp David agreement which was initially conceived apparently with the idea of securing peace in the region utterly failed to bring in peace to the countries of the region. It unleashed wars and boundless destruction on the peoples of the region...we dismiss any conciliatory peace plan designed by the U.S. imperialists and Zionists...we are flanking with the Palestinians and their national forces which are fighting against the occupying U.S. and other forces for liberating their lands...

(On the Confrontation and Steadfastness Front): We must stand firmly in order to safeguard our freedom. Our very existence and our freedom is the target of conspiracies of the United States and the Zionists. The progressive countries of the region must therefore maintain their steadfastness...

(On recent military maneuvers of the United States in the region): Military maneuvers by the United States which are exercised by involving the U.S. Rapid Deployment Forces in certain countries of the region is in fact some form of violation of the sovereignty of independent countries. We regard such maneuvers as being direct threats against our own security and sovereignty in the region...to deal with the dangers which are said to be threatening the countries of the region, is solely the business of the countries of the region and not the business of the United States. We, the countries of region are capable of finding the ways and means for ensuring peace and stability in the region by establishing good understanding and collaboration among ourselves.

Libyan Naval Commander Arrives in Tehran 23 Sep

LD231037 Tehran IRNA in English 0942 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Text] Tehran, Sept 22, IRNA — Libya's naval commander, Captain Abd al-Latif Ahmad al-Shakshuki at the head of a delegation arrived here today at 14:30 hours local time and was greeted at Tehran's Mehrabad Airport by his Iranian counterpart, Captain Esfandiyar Hosseyni.

After its arrival the Libyan delegation left for Behesht-e Zahra cemetery at Tehran and paid tribute to the martyrs of the Iraqi imposed war, by laying bouquets on their tombs.

The visiting Libyan delegation will be in Tehran for one week.

Ground Forces Commander on Closing Hormuz Strait

LD231446 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Excerpts] The presermon speaker of today's Friday prayers in Tehran was Colonel Sayyad-Shirazi, commander of the Ground Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The commander of the Ground Forces expounded the role played by the unity among the combatants of Islam and the Muslim nation of Iran and the effects of the unstinting support provided by the government to the forces of Islam. Continuing his remarks, he warned the United States, France, and the agents of global arrogance that by creating strife in the region and by destroying our economic resources, they themselves will suffer the most. He continued: They are more dependent on these resources than we are and we are prepared to put up with any hardship.

Col Sayyad-Shirazi emphasized: In case of their destructive action, we are determined to close the Strait of Hormuz. He added: By the stupid act of giving the Super Etendard planes to Iraq and by its presence in Lebanon, France will certainly drag itself to its grave; perhaps this is the will of God trying once again to disgrace the hegemonist United States and the aggressive France in Lebanon's area.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Friday Sermons 23 Sep

First Sermon

LD240208 Tehran IRNA in English 1938 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Text] Tehran, Sept.23 IRNA — In his first sermon at today's Friday mass prayers here, Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani talked about his recent trip to the deprived provinces of the country and called on the devoted and Muslim forces to go and live beside the deprived people [words indistinct] as well as Hormozgan Provinces for a little while and assist them.

Speaking on the oppression imposed upon the people of these regions by the colonialist policies of the United States and British, the Majlis speaker said that at first Britain wanted to form an independent country by merging the Baluchestan Province of Iran and Pakistan in order to preserve its interests in India. This policy was later delegated to the United States whose interests were different and aimed at preventing the Soviets from infiltrating to the open sea. Therefore, the U.S. established a big naval base in Chahbahar port in the Oman Sea and the Zionists settled in the northern regions of the province on the pretext of utilising Hirmand and Hamun Rivers, he said.

With the victory of the Islamic Revolution, the Zionist forces left the country but the U.S. hopes concerning Chahabahar port were not disappointed because of having internal agents there. Therefore it did not let the base be strengthened under the superivision of the Islamic Republic. Yet, he continued the port was to be utilised and strengthened properly after the going away of U.S. agents.

Talking about the advantages of Hormozgan Province from economic, commercial and military point of view, he said that the province was rich with gas, mineral ores and large number of factories could be constructed there.

He continued that another problem of Sistan and Baluchestan Province was the issue of 250,000 Afghan refugees who needed housing, food and jobs.

He continued that the coasts of the two provinces were highly suitable industries so that they could catch and distribute 400,000 tons of fish annually which could meet the domestic demand and provide foreign exchange currency for the country. Measures have been taken in this regard including the breeding of fish in human lake which is a positive step in this path. With the growth of this industry, the welfare and economy of the people of these regions would be provided.

Speaking of the instigations of internal and foreign enemies of the Islamic Revolution in this region, he said that besides the conspiracies of counterrevolution carried out by outlaws and khans, a few Sunni ulema are paid off to take measures against the Islamic Republic. This role was carried out by Saudi princes in Baluchestan Province of Pakistan. There were also a number of leftists who worked for the Soviets. All these problems had been eliminated and the region was ready for development.

Talking on his trip to Kerman Province and the inspection of Sarcheshmeh copper complex, he said that Americans never thought that Iranians would ever be able to put into operation this complex let alone the completion of its projects and elimination of shortcomings.

At the end of his first sermon, Hojjat ol-Eslam Rafsanjani said that the Iranian Armed Forces in Chahbahahr, Zahedan, Bandar-e Abbas were thoroughly ready and coordinated.

He continued that he had gone near Hormuz Strait and returned easily and according to the information he had concerning military issue, there were no problems and if there should arise anything, the Islamic forces were ready and could enter into operations any moment they decide to.

During speeches delivered before the Friday prayers sermons, the commander of the ground forces, Colonel 'Ali Sayyad-Shirazi talked about the various stages of the Iraqi imposed war and the achievements gained by Iranian combatants.

Stressing the unity among people, the commander said that the Iranian nation considered the Iraqi war as a war between Islam and world oppression.

In another part of his speech, Colonel Sayyad-Shirazi warned France that it bear the consequence of putting sophisticated equipment at the disposal of Iran's enemy. He continued that French officials were digging their graves by loaning such equipment (planes) to Iraq and by their presence in Lebanon and supporting the Phalangists.

Second Sermon

LD232354 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Excerpts] Today, the 2d day of the "War Week" anniversary, millions of the risen, Muslim people of Iran, in concentrated ranks, again held the political-religious ceremonies of the Friday prayers, this unifying and enemy-crushing ritual held throughout the country. Today, along with other God-seeking compatriots, the hezbollahi people of Tehran, who are always present on the scene, held the glorious Friday prayers ritual at Tehran University under the imamate of Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

At the beginning of the second prayers sermon, Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani congratulated the imam and the nation on the auspicious birthday anniversary of the 10th imam, His Holiness 'Ali an-Naqi — peace be upon him. Continuing the sermon, on the occasion of "War Week," he gave a brief account of the imposed war. He said: According to documents and proof we have, the war was no doubt started with the aim of

overthrowing the Islamic Republic and suppressing the Islamic Revolution; certainly America, the Soviet Union, and the region's reaction acted with each other's help or separately until they reached such a point. We can be sure that the left, the right and the region's reaction collaborated in this matter. Giving various reasons for this collaboration, he said: The relationship between the Iraqi Army and the Soviet Union was like the relationship between the Iranian Army under the shah and America. The Soviets were no doubt aware of the war plan. According to Kianuri's confessions, they gave prior information to members of the Tudeh Party of the capture of Khuzestan by Iraq. America was also certainly aware of this plan because Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Sudan, and Kuwait are involved in the war and support Saddam. The Port of Aqaba had been prepared, and they had reached an agreement as to how much financial help and armament to render to Iraq. They joined with the region's reaction — which has given money and is still doing so — to overthrow the Islamic Republic and to separate the region from this revolution. The export of our revolution to Iraq was naturally greater than to other places for the sake of Karbala and Imam Husayn — peace be upon him — who has been a source of inspiration to us; naturally the Iraqis were afraid of us more than others.

Continuing his second sermon, Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani said:

[Begin recording] They came and tried to place the situation on the threshold of an international fervor in order to put us under intense pressure caused by the fear of the major forces of the international economic powers. They stage-managed a scene indicating that the situation would make the war worldwide and that the war between Iran and Iraq might cause a world crisis.

Here I mention two scenes. There are more scenes; I only mention two of them. A recent one is the story of the French Super Entendard aircraft. They have been publicizing for a while that the French are going to deliver these aircraft; particularly, they said that when they arrive they would put Khark Island out of action; they said this. As to how realistic this is, we'll mention it later. The main aim of this story is propaganda, psychological warfare. They have said these things deliberately in order to panic us. They said these things deliberately so that it would become a world issue: If the island's oil is cut off they would react. We had said earlier, at the beginning of the war: The day we cannot use our oil the Persian Gulf would have no value to us because the Persian Gulf is of value only when we have oil. We then have dollars to buy goods and bring them to our ports. If we have no oil, these ports become valueless. We will close the gate so that we all would be deprived together and this we can do. We had said this. [chants of God is great; Khomeyni is the leader; death to those who are against clerical rule; death to America; death to the Soviet Union; death to the hypocrites and Saddam; death to Israel] They came and made that story; we also repeated our threat; they said that with the delivery of these aircraft the Persian Gulf would be blocked. The prospect of the blocking of the Persian Gulf is very frightening to the world's industrial countries.

We ladies and gentlemen, do not live in such atmosphere and cannot imagine it. Imagine the 10 million barrels of oil a day which passes through the Strait being stopped for 6 months. If war breaks out there and if a 500,000-ton ship is sunk in the Strait of Hormuz it would take us several months to prepare it for shipping again. And that is only one ship sunk — God knows what it would be like if there were more. If the oil is stopped for 6 months, the price of a barrel of oil, which is now $30, will reach $100 dollars and will go up further still because there would be a shortage of oil. Rival companies would struggle to reserve it. World resources are not very [word indistinct], some countries will not part with their oil because they need it themselves and this will cause... [sentence not completed]. Japan takes gas from here. What will Japan, the world's industrial giant, whose life is here and who can be beheaded here in the Persian Gulf, do? What economic power does it have to put the world under pressure to stop this?

The island case is not a simple one. They know it themselves. It is not that America would come and, with a sword, force us to open the Strait of Hormuz. That is not the case. If security here is disturbed, 1,000 self-sacrificing men who are prepared to give their lives could keep it closed for several years. [chants of God is great] Cannot a people who genuinely and without propaganda offer themselves to walk on mines in front of their combatants, carry out an operation if there are a thousand of them?

We also have such a force in the south. We have forces like this in the north of our country and in the south, our supporters. When necessary, there will be enough decent men in the Persian Gulf countries to come and help us, to make it unsafe for the other side. We do not want it to be unsafe at the moment. We do not want it to be unsafe. It is now safe. We will keep it safe. Therefore, they understand what blocking the Persian Gulf means. They now say America is afraid of the Soviet Union. Even if the Soviet Union invites America to come here, America will not dare to come — it is afraid of us. Even if the Soviets come, even if both of them come to the Persian Gulf with their fleets they will not be able to do anything. Of course, they could put our ports out of action, sink our ships, and bomb our cities, but this is not what they want. If they carry out such actions, the Persian Gulf will be more unsafe.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Issues Communiques

Communique No 1,469

LD231745 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Communique No 1,469 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name: Fighting and exchanges of artillery and heavy weapons fire continued yesterday on the operational fronts of Piranshah and the border regions of Sar Dasht and Baneh between the proud combatants of Islam and the Ba'thist mercenaries of Iraq. In one area of Piranshah, our forces opened fire on an enemy unit which was intending to launch an operation. The aggressive enemy, suffering damages and casualties, was pinned down. On these fronts, the combatants of Islam also silenced the Saddamist mercenaries' fire, checked engineering and troop movements of the Iraqi forces, prevented enemy move-

ments, and destroyed a number of foxholes and slit trenches belonging to the Ba'thist mercenaries, together with their crews. Our forces also set fire to an enemy truck carrying ammunition.

On the Sayyid Sadiq-Panjwin axis, our forces opened fire on a Saddamist mercenary motorized column and inflicted considerable damage on the enemy. On the operational fronts of the western regions, exchanges of fire continued between our forces and the aggressive enemy; our combatants opened fire on enemy infantry and armored units and artillery positions, preventing their activities. Our forces destroyed Iraqi positions, destroying a number of their weapon emplacements together with their crews, and by dispatching patrols our forces kept enemy activities and movements under surveillance.

On the Mehran front, the combatants of Islam returned enemy fire, silenced the Iraqi forces' fire, and destroyed one of their heavy mortars. On the southern fronts, our forces continued defending their positions and, by executing defensive fire, silenced the fire of the Iraqi forces and inflicted damages and casualhyphenationties.Warriors of the Gendarmerie defended their positions, returned enemy fire, and prevented their engineering operations and troop movements on the other side of the Arvand Rud. During the past 48 hours, they succeeded in killing or wounding about 25 Saddamist mercenaries and in destroying more than 7 weapon emplacements and observation posts of the Iraqi Ba'thist mercenaries.

Yesterday the city of Abadan came under the heavy weapons fire of the Saddamist criminals, which damaged a health center and demolished two houses. During the past 24 hours, the defenders of the skies of our dear Islamic homeland foiled all attempts by aggressive Iraqi planes on the southern and western borders of our country.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Communique No 1,470

LD241824 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 24 Sep 83

[Communique No 1,470 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Exchanges of fire continued yesterday on the western fronts. The Islamic combat units maintained their consistent alertness and opened timely fire, thus preventing enemy movements and activity.

In the Marivan sector, our artillery units opened fire on the (Biya'eh and Sayyed Sadeq)Garrison and, having silenced the enemy fire, destroyed several foxholes and bunkers and killed or wounded the troops in them.

Our units' fire in Panjwin set fire to two ammunition trucks that were part of an enemy motorized convoy. Enemy installations in the (Khormal) sector were also damaged. In the region opposite Darband, several enemy troops were forced to flee by our forces' fire. On one Bakhtaran border front, a number of enemy troops were killed and the rest were forced to flee; they were trying to infiltrate our defensive positions.

On the southern fronts, exchanges of artillery and mortar fire continued yesterday, with our combat units defending their positions. In the region opposite Zobeydeh, a number of enemy soldiers digging trenches were fired on by our forces. At least 12 were either killed or wounded and the rest were forced to leave. Furthermore, the enemy's trench digging and mining operations in Kushk, north of (Zayd), south of (Bedeliyah) and (Pichandizeh), were disrupted as a result of our Islamic forces' fire.

Yesterday, our combatants' heavy fire destroyed four bunkers and two observation posts on the far side of the Arvand Rud, killing a number of Iraqis and wounding others. The enemy's long-range fire on Abadan's residential areas damaged four houses yesterday.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Communique No 1,471

LD251742 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Communique No 1,471 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. We congratulate His Excellency Mahdi, the lord of the Ages, may God speed his auspicious advent, the great leader of the revolution and the commander in chief and all the dear Muslim compatriots and the proud and self-sacrificing combatants of Islam on the auspicious 'Id al-Ghadir and ask Almighty God for a speedy victory for the self-sacrificing Islamic combatants. The conditions on the fronts of the imposed war hereby are brought to the attention of the dear compatriots:

Yesterday, sporadic exchanges of artillery and heavy weapons fire continued on most of the operational fronts in Piranshah and the border regions of Sar Dasht, Baneh, and Marivan; they were more intense in the Hajj 'Umran sector. The artillery fire of the mighty combatants of Islam inflicted heavy losses and casualties on the Iraqi forces in that sector. Two enemy patrolmen were captured by the forces of Islam in the Marivan sector.

On the Bakhtaran border fronts, the victorious combatants of Islam defended their positions and fired on enemy positions and units, inflicting losses and casualties on the Saddamist forces and destroying an ammunition dump. They also dispatched patrol groups and opened artillery fire, thus keeping enemy movements under control. On the southern fronts, sporadic exchanges of fire took place between our forces and the aggressive enemy. The powerful combatants of Islam fired on enemy positions and defensive lines, silencing enemy fire and inflicting losses and casualties on them.

On the Abadan front, Gendarmerie combatants returned enemy fire, kept enemy movements under control, and continued defending their relevant sectors. Two houses were damaged in Abadan yesterday by enemy heavy weapons fire.

During the past 24 hours, a number of invading planes of the aggressive Iraqi forces, intending to violate the airspace of a number of western and southern border regions, were forced to flee by the tactical measures of the fighter planes of the Islamic Republic of Iran Air Force and the fire of the Air Defense Units.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Guards Corps Statement on Operation in Iraq

LD251722 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Statement by Islamic Revolution Guards Corps Central Headquarters]

[Text] On the eve of the auspicious 'Id al-Ghadir al-Khumm and simultaneously with the anniversary of the imposed war, the mighty and valiant Islamic combatants succeeded —in a victorious operation launched in the region south of Marivan and north of Sayyid Sadiq in Iraq — in inflicting heavy losses and casualties on the enemy. Following the Zionist enemy's attempts to launch a fruitless operation at Surani Heights, situated on the border, the forces of Islam embarked on a coordinated oepration which started 48 hours ago and continued until yesterday.

During this operation, they attacked enemy positions and inflicted considerable damage on Iraqi Brigades No 5 and 425, in addition to killing more than 100 Iraqi troops and destroying 2 Zionist enemy ammunition dumps and weapons. The headquarters of an enemy battalion also was destroyed as a result of the Islamic's forces' heavy fire. During this operation,a number of enemy troops were taken prisoner by the mighty combatants of Islam and enemy weapons and ammunition were taken as spoils of war.

[Signed] Central Headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guard Corps

IRNA: Denmark Agrees To Sell Warships to Iraq

LD251137 Tehran IRNA in English 0717 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 25 IRNA — Denmark agreed to sell three warships to Iraq which will be used by the Iraqi Navy. Reports reaching here today added that the cost of the warships is 7.5 million dollars.

The reports said that the two warships have already been delivered by Denmark while the third one will be delivered within few days to Iraq.

The warships, the same report said, will be used for the transportation of military personnel and tanks. The warships have also provision for the accomodation of helicopters.

Over 308 Convicts Pardoned, Released in Kerman

LD240239 Tehran IRNA in English 1920 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Text] Kerman, Sept. 23, IRNA — Over 308 convicts found guilty by Kerman Islamic Revolution's courts were pardoned and released Thursday in the wake of an earlier directive by Imam Khomeyni for a quicker and closer scrutinizing of charges against detainees in state prisons.

Also, the court commuted the life sentences of another 182 convicts to five years of imprisonment each.

Musavi, Ministers Depart for Oil Regions 26 Sep

GF260504 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi, along with Petroleum Minister Gharazi; Energy Minister Ghafuri-Fard; Labor and Social Affairs Minister Sarhadizadeh; the minister of state in charge of planning and budget organizations, Banki; Minister of Higher Education and Culture Najafi; and several deputy ministers and officials left Tehran today to visit oil regions in the south.

Iran Recalls Wrestling Team From Soviet Union

GF251640 Tehran IRNA in English 1605 GMT 25 Sep 83

["Iran's Wrestling Team Called Back in Protest" — IRNA headline]

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 25 IRNA — The Iranian wrestlers were asked to return immediately from Kiev, Soviet Union, in protest against putting an Iranian wrestler with a Zionist wrestler, it was announced Sunday by physical training organisation.

The organisers of the world wrestling championship did not give the details of the matches beforehand as a result of which one Iranian wrestler participated in one of the events with a Zionist.

The Islamic Republic of Iran considers [the] Zionist regime as lackey of the United States and denounces that regime because it has usurped the Muslims land.

The physical training organisation of Iran protested against the way the wrestling competitions were organised and called back the Iranians from Kiev.